

# Sustainable Finance and Investment for Green Development



**Prof. Zhirong Zhao**

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## Bio:

Zhirong "Jerry" Zhao is the Yangtze Chair Professor at Department of Urban Development & Management, Zhejiang University. He holds a Ph.D. in Public Administration from University of Georgia and earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in Urban Planning from Tongji University. Before joining Zhejiang University, he was the Gross Family Professor of Public & Nonprofit Management at Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota (UMN).

Jerry is specialized in public budgeting & finance, in particular infrastructure finance. He has published two books and more than 50 articles in peer-reviewed journals, including Public Administration Review, Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory, American Journal of Public Administration, Public Budgeting & Finance, Public Finance Review, Municipal Finance Journal, Journal of Urban Affairs, and Urban Studies, etc. Jerry has led many funded projects supported by National Science Foundation, US Department of Transportation, and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, etc., and served as a consultant to many organizations, such as the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, National Governor Association, National Council of State Legislatures, and Ernst & Young.

Within the Humphrey School, Jerry founded the Institute for Urban & Regional Infrastructure Finance (IURIF), of which he now serves as an Academic Advisor. Jerry Zhao's new research team in Zhejiang University focuses on sustainable finance, with topics related to revenue sources, budgetary decisions, and financing mechanisms to support environmental protection, climate transition, and green development.

## Abstract:

The achievement of green development goals needs a solid financial support. On one hand, it takes lots of financial resources for climate actions and the low-carbon transition. On the other hand, budgeting and financing arrangements are critical "handles" of climate governance. This presentation will introduce a framework of sustainable finance and investment (SF&I), which includes green pricing, green financing, and green budgeting, with efforts led by the government, the market, and individuals/organizations in the society. It will also feature several ongoing research projects, such as the rise of carbon taxes globally, multiple shades of "greenness" in China's green bonds, and the policy configuration in China's low-carbon city pilot programs.



**Venue: LI-6376**  
6/F Li Dak Sum Yip  
Yio Chin Academic Building,  
City University of Hong Kong



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